

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Chien-Chung Cheng et al Art Unit :
Serial No. : Examiner :
Filed : January 2, 2002
Title : METHOD OF CLEAVING A NUCLEIC ACID BULGE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the title:

Replace the title of the application with the following:

-- NUCLEIC ACID BULGE-DETECTING AGENT --

In the specification:

Insert the following paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1:

-- This application is a divisional application of U.S. Serial Number 09/302,334 filed

April 30, 1999, pending issue. --

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 18 with the following rewritten
paragraph:

A2 -- Note that the metal ion of each of the complexes of formula (I) adopts an octahedral
coordination. For example, the X-ray crystal structure of cobalt(II)(hexaazacyclo-

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